

Irrigation Protocol at ALBA

Before you Irrigate:

- Clearly enter your name, # of acres, and type of irrigation in the calendar as early as possible
- Arrive at the pump 5 minutes before your turn begins
- Communicate with those finishing the previous turn and those beginning the new turn:
 - How many acres and what type of irrigation (sprinkler or drip) each farmer is using
 - Who is opening and closing valves in what order
 - How long each farmer is going to irrigate
- Enter into the calendar the acre-feet reading from the flow meter as your turn begins

During your irrigation:

- Observe water pressure at your riser and maintain a proper pressure.

After you irrigate:

- Show up at the pump 5 minutes before your turn ends
- Communicate with those finishing your turn and those beginning the next turn:
 - Who is opening and closing valves in what order
- Enter into the calendar the acre-feet reading from the flow meter as your turn ends
- Enter the number of hours that you have irrigated
- Enter any important observations (system malfunction, pressure problems, etc)
- Sign your initials to confirm that you have irrigated and close your valves completely

To help save water, electricity, time, and money:

- If you have a small area to irrigate, please team up with other farmers whenever possible. It is best for the pump to run at least two acres of drip or one acre of sprinkler at a time
- If you have a large area to irrigate, please allow others with small areas to irrigate at the same time.
- Whenever possible, coordinate your turn with farmers using the same pressure for irrigation (everyone using drip, or everyone using sprinklers)
- Whenever possible, coordinate your turn with farmers on the same mainline section (either all in the “upper section” or all in the “lower section”)
- Whenever you cancel your name from the calendar, please notify other farmers who have already signed up for the same time.
- Try to sign up ahead of time. The last name on the list will be the first to be removed in there is not sufficient pressure. Last-minute sign-ins cannot always be accommodated.